

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 192793  
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05  
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00  
FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /122 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/FA:BSHALLMAN:EEB  
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/FA:LSNEAD  
ARA/CAR-MR. SURBER  
L/OES-MS. HOINKES  
OES/OFA/OA-MR. SCULLY

-----041914 151838Z /46

R 151733Z AUG 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192793

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, BF, US

SUBJECT: BAHAMAS 200 MILE FISHERIES ZONE

REF: (A) STATE 137980, (B) NASSAU 564

1. EMBASSY IS AWARE THAT RECENT PASSAGE OF 200 MILE FISH-  
ERIES LEGISLATION BY BOTH THE BAHAMAS AND THE US HAS GIVEN  
RISE TO FISHERIES AND MARITIME BOUNDARY QUESTIONS. OF  
PARTICULAR URGENCY IS FISHERIES ISSUE SINCE BAHAMIAN  
LAW HAS HAD IMMEDIATE IMPACT ON US FISHERMEN WHO FISH FOR  
SNAPPER-GROUP AND OTHER FINFISH IN NEW GCOB ZONE. SITUA-  
TION WITH RESPECT TO SPINY LOBSTER (WHICH US FISHERMEN  
HAVE BEEN PRECLUDED FROM FISHING OFF BAHAMAS SINCE 1975)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 192793

IS UNCHANGED BY NEW GCOB LAW BUT DEPT. IS UNDER INCREASING  
PRESSURE TO RAISE ISSUE AGAIN WITH BAHAMAS TO EXPLORE  
POSSIBILITIES FOR ACCESS. DEPT. RECOGNIZES THAT SUCH  
ACCESS IS UNLIKELY, BUT AGREEMENT ALLOWING US FISHING FOR  
FINFISH AND SPORTSFISH SHOULD BE POSSIBLE.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH GCOB TO REQUEST THAT

FISHERIES DISCUSSIONS BE HELD BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS AS  
SOON AS POSSIBLE. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE  
FOR EMBASSY TRANSMITTAL TO FOREIGN MINISTRY: BEGIN TEXT.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS  
COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN -AFFAIRS OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO  
THE LAW OF THE BAHAMAS WHICH ESTABLISHES A 200-MILE FISHERY  
ZONE OFF THE COAST OF THE BAHAMAS.

THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IS AWARE THAT UNITED STATES FISHING  
VESSELS HAVE BEEN FISHING FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS IN WATERS  
WHICH WILL NOW BE A PART OF THE BAHAMAS FISHERIES ZONE.  
THE EMBASSY REQUESTS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS MEET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO  
DISCUSS THE IMPACT WHICH THE EXTENSION OF FISHERIES JURIS-  
DICTION BY THE BAHAMAS MAY HAVE ON UNITED STATES FISHERMEN,  
AND TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATING A FISHERIES  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

THE EMBASSY HOPES THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
OF THE BAHAMAS WILL EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN THE ENFORCEMENT  
OF ITS LAW AGAINST US FISHERMEN UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 192793

EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF A FISHERIES AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
OUR TWO COUNTRIES. COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE. END TEXT. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHING AGREEMENTS, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT, FISHING LIMITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE192793  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** BSHALLMAN:EEB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770294-0068  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770861/aaaabzhj.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ae28635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN OES  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 137980, 77 NASSAU 564  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1601144  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BAHAMAS 200 MILE FISHERIES ZONE  
**TAGS:** EFIS, PFOR, BF, US  
**To:** NASSAU  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ae28635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009